Debrief of the Staff Council Meeting
Tuesday, 14 February 2017 and
Tuesday, 14 March 2017

Chair Will Telfer presided over the meeting. Patricia Black acted as Secretary.

Guest Speakers:
Hank Steen, Director, Benefits & HR Service Center and Becky Ivy, Director, HR Consulting came to listen to concerns about the way time-off is accrued for hourly staff. There was a concern on how it is calculated: Is it best to accrue then deduct or deduct then accrue? Also the question of maternity leave was brought up and we were informed that there were some exciting things in the works and would be announced soon.

Dr. Garland, Interim President gave us an enrollment update. He also talked about his invitation to the American Talent Initiative.
He gave us an update on the Presidential Search Committee and that an announcement should be made by end of April.
He also gave us an update on the Staff regent request.

Jane Bounds from Pack of Hope came to thank us for our choosing Pack of Hope as our spring service project. She is excited about our upcoming food drive, week of March 20-24.

Ashley Thornton, Christine Helmick, Mathew Polk and Beth Farwell talked about Baylor-Waco Partnership and the WISD Internship Program. The Baylor-Waco partnership is an organization that works together for the best interests of both the city and university. WISD Internship Program is a project that falls under one of the Baylor-Waco initiatives. Interested departments can hire an intern for the summer. There is a $600 stipend that needs to be paid to the Education Foundation. For more information contact Christine Helmick at Christina@prosperwaco.org.

Reports were given on the following committees:
**Campus Diversity**- They reviewed four Diversity Enhancement Grant applications. The Cultural Connection celebration was held on February 9th, 2017 and was well attended. Plans are already being discussed for next year.

**Faculty Senate**- Senate Chair distributed a report of the Task force on Arts & Sciences Transfer Credit Policy. A senator revisited the report of the “Faculty Senate Task force on Student Course Evaluations. An update on the Presidential Search was given. Provost Jones spoke to Faculty Senate. Senate discussed Canvas and the “observer status” for Athletic Advisory members.

**Health Committee**- Theater Department asked the committee to consider a request to use real cigarettes, instead of electronic ones, in two of their upcoming performances. The decision was to uphold the campus-wide ban, thereby denying the Theater Department’s request.

**Constitution & Bylaws**- There are 5 proposed changes to the Constitution & Bylaws that needed to be presented for voting at our next meeting.

**Service**- “Fill the Basket” food drive for Pack of Hope will take place the week of March 20-24.

**STEPP Luncheon**- STEPP luncheon will be on Wednesday, March 22nd.

**Treasurer and Scholarship**- As of January 31, 2017 the Baylor Staff Endowed Scholarship Fund had gifts totaling $49,184.45 and outstanding pledges of $701.00. As of February 28th, 2017 gifts totaled $49,450.45 and outstanding pledges of $345.00

**Membership**- Plans are in place to get the nominations and voting of new members elected. Chair Telfer formed a Nominating committee to nominate members for the positions of Chair Elect and Secretary. Nominated members are:

- Chair Elect: Lamar Bryant, Rebecca Tucker Nall, and Vicki Patterson
- Secretary: Heather Guenat, Rebecca Tucker Nall, and Lesley Windham

The Academic and Work Environment Survey will be going out campus wide via email. The survey will be coming from the University of Illinois at Chicago Survey Research Laboratory.

All staff members are encouraged to visit the Staff Council website at [www.baylor.edu/staff_council](http://www.baylor.edu/staff_council) for all the latest news and events related to Baylor Staff.